

Representative Brady Piñero Walkinshaw

Maria Bellon
Director, WA Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Director Bellon:

I wish to express my thanks to this administration for having such a strong commitment to the environment. Governor Inslee's and your leadership helped ignite a long overdue conversation in the legislature about our climate future and how to secure a future for the next generation where the air is breathable and the water is drinkable. I was proud to stand with you in our legislative attempts to put a price on carbon and achieve our state's statutorily mandated reductions in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere as required by RCW 70.235.020. The community stepped up when we failed, particularly the kids who lead "Plant for the Planet" and now Ecology is in the process of rulemaking with the proposed Clean Air Rule.

Efforts to reverse climate change and achieve our statutory environmental goals must be based in science and approached through environmental justice lens. The longer we wait to act and the weaker our efforts are, the greater the consequences for society. This is particularly true for people of color, indigenous communities, children and the elderly, and those at the lowest level on the income scale.

While I am pleased to see Ecology taking positive steps to address climate change and protect our waters and lands from pollution, waste, and harmful toxins, I encourage you to be bold. I am concerned that the proposed rule does not go far enough, not only to achieve our statutory environmental goals, but also to go further in order to truly protect those most vulnerable and at-risk to the harmful effects of climate change.

You have my strong support for a science-based ruling that upholds environmental justice. To accomplish this we must stand strong against powerful forces seeking a muted rule and instead require a reduction in emissions far greater than 1.7% per year and through stronger compliance requirements.

Again, my many thanks to you for your commitment to a healthy climate future.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brady Piñero Walkinshaw', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Brady Piñero Walkinshaw
State Representative
43rd Legislative District